

CHEHALEM

CHEHALEM RIDGECREST PINOT GRIS 2013

Appellation: Ribbon Ridge; Willamette Valley; Oregon; USA

Winemaker: Harry
Peterson-Nedry
Closure: Screwcap
Alcohol: 11.5%
Certified Sustainably Grown



Chehalem, © Shawn Linehan

Vineyard

Our oldest estate vineyard block, Ridgecrest is a 55-acre vineyard on a 176-acre property. Beginning in 1980, this site pioneered grapegrowing on Ribbon Ridge, a small ridge on the western end of the Chehalem Range. Soils are Willakenzie, a transition soil series exhibiting characteristics of both volcanic and sedimentary underlying structures, marine sediment being predominant. Excellent acidity and a finesseful texture and finish are hallmarks of the vineyard site, being relatively high in elevation, mature in vine age, and deeply rooted. Very ageable wines.

Tasting Notes

The bright array of fruit, minerality, texture and size define this Gris with pear, lemon, ginger, custard, powdered sugar frosting, anise and mineral elements packed in; it is complex, viscous, rich and texturally exciting; finishes long and dry.

Reviews

Light and refreshing, with pretty pear and floral flavors on a soft texture, lingering with precision. The finish lingers. Drink now through 2022. **91 points Wine Spectator, Feb 29, 2016**

The Wine

Pinot Gris is one of the wines for which we are best known. We make it in a style as close to Alsace as possible, working to get weight on the palate, while retaining fruit flavors and acidity, and harvested ripe to give full, viscous wines with light spice flavors and long finishes. We consider Pinot Gris a universal food wine

Vintage

2013 is a Tale of Two Harvests—one very early and one normal, with rain in-between. They started as one very early harvest thanks to a very consistent, warm growing season, the warmest on record up to final ripening mid-September. An unanticipated 30-year rain event of 5 inches then appeared the last days of September, made of remnants from a typhoon that had hit Japan. Cool weather from then on slowed ripening and turned harvest into two discrete picks, earlier and later picks apart by up to three weeks showing very good quality, the coolness and longer hang-time a big benefit. Croploads were moderate-to high, wines early-on similar in nature to 1996, with richness, and deep spice.

